



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS SPACE AND MISSILE SYSTEMS CENTER (AFSPC)
LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

19 JUL 2005

FROM: SMC/GP

2420 Vela Way, Suite 1866
El Segundo, CA 90245-4659

SUBJECT: Commercial GPS Receiver: Facts for the Warfighter DVD

1. American warfighters and our allies have used navigation devices based on the Navstar Global Positioning System (GPS) to prevail in combat situations from Operation DESERT STORM in 1991 to the Afghan and Iraqi campaigns of today. Our fighting forces continue to find new and innovative ways to exploit the asymmetrical advantage of GPS.
2. The growing use of GPS brings a growing risk as well. Warfighters need to know the difference between the secure, military-grade GPS units and commercially available civil-grade units. Using a commercial GPS device in a war zone without understanding its fundamental limitations can lead to friendly-fire casualties, collateral damage, or worse.
3. The enclosed 10-minute DVD entitled, "Commercial GPS Receivers: Facts for the Warfighter" outlines some of the risks of using commercial GPS receivers for combat operations. The DVD is approved for public release, and should be shared with warfighters, trainers, policymakers, and anyone who has to make a decision about how to use GPS in a combat situation.
4. All GPS devices can be valuable aides to the men and women of our armed services, if used properly. This DVD will help you and those who count on you to make informed decisions when using GPS.
5. To obtain additional copies, or for more information please contact the Navstar GPS Joint Program Office at (310) 363-1526; DSN: 833-1526.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wesley A. Ballenger, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

WESLEY A. BALLENGER, JR., Col, USAF
System Program Director
Navstar GPS Joint Program Office

Attachment:

Commercial GPS Receiver: Facts for the Warfighter DVD